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of the

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

2:30 P.M. EST FEBRUARY 23, 1977 WEDNESDAY

In Room 450 Old Executive Office Building Washington, D. C.

THE PRESIDENT: Good afternoon, everybody. I would like to make a very brief statement as a progress report to the American people on some items that are important to us.

We have submitted and the Congress is now considering legislation to give me the authority to reorganize the Executive Branch of Government. The Senate Committee under Senator Ribicoff has now completed their hearings and they will be marking up a bill beginning tomorrow. The House Committee on Government Operations, under Congréssman Jack Brooks, has scheduled hearings to begin on March 1st. So, because of the interest of the American people and the Congress and myself in completing this very crucial project, I think the Congress is moving with great expedition to give me that authority.

We have also initiated with directions to the members of the Cabinet and other agency heads a new program to cut down on the extremely great overload of paperwork with a requirement that those who prepare Government regulations and who are responsible for the preparation sign them.

I have asked my Cabinet officers to read the regulations that are forthcoming from the departments each week until they see the volume and the complexity of them, and we hope to eliminate unnecessary regulations, abbreviate those that are necessary, express them in the language so we can all understand them.

I have also asked major elements of our society, the university professors and the State officials, in this last week to give me their suggestions on how the regulations might be improved.

We have done the same thing with reports required by the Federal Government.

MORE

QUESTION: "r. President, you told the Democratic Platform Committee that you thought present defense expenditures could be reduced by five to seven billion dollars. I think you may have modified your position somewhat since then. Obviously, in your short time in office you didn't find the opportunity to make cuts like that in your predecessor's budget.

But isn't it also likely that next year's budget for defense will exceed this year's?

THE PRESIDENT: Well, because of inflationary pressures and because of an impossibility of assessing the potential threat to our country from other nations, it is hard to predict exactly what the level of defense spending will be.

In the short time that we had available to work on the previous Administration's budget, about three weeks of hard work, we were able to reduce the suggested expenditures by almost \$3 billion, I think about \$2.75 billion. This was done -- and I think Senator Stennis in his recent public statements has confirmed that it has been done -- without weakening our own defense capability.

The substantial savings in defense spending that will still leave us a muscle will be in such things as the sanitization of weapons, long-range planning, a more businesslike allocation of defense contracting, an assessment of the defense contracts for construction and repair already outstanding, a reassessment of priorities of the evolution of new weapons which in the future can become enormously expensive, a longer assignment of military personnel to a base before they are transferred, some emphasis on the correction of inequities and unfairnesses in the retirement system.

These things obviously can't be done in three weeks, but they will be an ongoing effort on my part and I think the 1979 budget, which will be my Administration's first budget, will show these improvements to a substantial degree, Mr. Cormier.

QUESTION: Will next year's defense budget actually be lower then than the one that you just revised?

THE PRESIDENT: I can't say yet.

QUESTION: Mr. President, do you think it was proper for the CIA to pay off King Hussein and other foreign leaders and what steps are you taking to make yourself more knowledgeable and more accountable for what the CIA does?

THE PRESIDENT: I have adopted a policy, which I am not going to leave, of not commenting directly on any specific CIA activity but I can tell you that I have begun a complete analysis which will be completed within the next week of all activities by the CIA.

I have received substantial reports already. I have reviewed the more controversial revelations that have been publicized in the last few days, some quite erroneous, some with some degree of accuracy. These same operations have

been reviewed by the Intelligence Oversight Board, an independent board, and also by my predecessor, President Ford.

I have not found anything illegal or improper. If in the future assessments, which will come quite early, I discover such an impropriety or illegality I will not only take immediate action to correct it but also will let the American people know about it.

I might say this: This is a very serious problem of how in a democracy to have adequate intelligence gathered, assessed and used to guarantee the security of our country. It is not part of the American nature to do things in secret. Obviously, historically and still at this modern time, there is a necessity to protect sources of information from other nations.

Sometimes other governments cooperate with us fully. Sometimes they don't. But I will try to be sure and so will Stan Turner, who will be the next Director of the intelligence community—he will try to be sure that everything we do is not only proper and legal, but also compatible with the attitudes of the American people.

One other point I would like to make is this: It can be extremely damaging to our relationship with other nations, to the potential security of our country even in peacetime, for these kinds of operations which are legitimate and proper to be revealed. It makes it hard for us to lay a groundwork on which we might predicate a successful meeting of a threat to us in time of war if we don't have some degree of secrecy.

I am quite concerned about the number of people now who have access to this kind of information and I have been working very closely with the congressional leaders, yesterday and today, to try to reduce the overall number of people who have access to the sources of information. But within the bounds that I have described--propriety, legality and the American attitude towards secrecy--I will do the best I can not ever to make a mistake. I am also assuming on a continuing basis a direct personal responsibility for the operation of all the intelligence agencies in our government to make sure that they are meeting these standards.

Yes, ma'am?

QUESTION: Mr. President, if there has been erroneous information, wouldn't it behoove you to correct the record?

THE PRESIDENT: In some ways we are correcting the record but if I began to either dispute or confirm every individual story that is written, whether correct or erroneous, on every matter relating to the CIA, then these matters which are necessarily secret would no longer be secret.

So I am not going to comment on individual items that relate to intelligence.

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We have, I think, a responsibility and a legal right to express our disapproval of violations of human rights. The Helsinki agreement, so-called Basket III provision, insures that some of these human rights shall be preserved. We are signatory of the Helsinki agreement. We are, ourselves, culpable in some ways for not giving people adequate right to move around our country, or restricting unnecessarily in my opinion visitation to this country by those who disagree with us politically.

So I think we all ought to take a position in our country and among our friends and allies, among our potential adversaries that human rights is something on which we should bear a major responsibility for leadership. And I have made it clear to the Soviet Union and to others in the Eastern European Community that I am not trying to launch a unilateral criticism of them; that I am trying to set a standard in our own country and make my concerns expressed throughout the world and not singled out against any particular country.

QUESTION: Mr. President, the other day -- getting back to the Hussein thing -- when that story broke your Press Secretary, when he issued what amounted to a no comment by the White House, someone asked him if this story had broken back during the campaign when you were running for President would you have given a similar response. He said, "Well, I don't know."

So can I ask you, what would have been your response? Would it have been the same?

THE PRESIDENT: I don't know. (Laughter)

QUESTION: Mr. President, on the same subject, you said earlier that your review of CIA activities had found nothing illegal or improper, and you later said that these activities are legitimate and proper. Isn't that a value judgment that the American public might like to share, but how can they if you refuse to give them any idea of what you have discovered during this review about payments, including ones made in secret?

THE PRESIDENT: That is a value judgment. It is made by the Independent Intelligence Oversight Board which was established and appointed by President Ford. This Board has made itself available to the Inspector General and to any employee within the CIA or within the Defense Intelligence Agencies or any other to receive even rumors of impropriety.

They have assessed these operations. They made their inquiries in the past which is in accordance with the Executive Order issued by President Ford to the Attorney General of the United States, and also to the President.

I have read that correspondence. It is quite voluminous. I think that it is accurate to say that Senator Inouye's committee in the Senate and the appropriate committees in the House have also received this information in the past. I have talked to Senator Inouye and he confirms what I have just told you. I think he would also confirm that the impropriety or the illegality does not exist on any ongoing CIA operation.



Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505 (703) 351-7676

14 June 1977

Herbert E. Hetu Assistant for Public Affairs

CMDR McMahon,

The meeting with the IOB generated practically no news reaction; no transcript was issued and none is available.

I believe we should retain the February news conference and add a paragraph on the more recent statement.

Herbert E. Hetu

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UNION UNIVERSITY
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ALBANY, NEW YORK 12208
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FRANCIS H. ANDERSON PROFESSOR OF LAW

May 27, 1977

Hon. Stansfield Turner Central Intelligence Agency Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Sir:

On March 20 you appeared on a panel television program and seemed to defend the use of public monies in covert payments to foreign leaders. As a teacher of Constitutional Law, it is deeply disturbing that you, as a representative of the Carter Administration, have not learned the lesson that both history and post-World War II experience has taught us, to wit: that democracy cannot tolerate secret dealing, whether lawful, unlawful, or extra-legal. If this administration wants the confidence of its citizens, it has got to come clean with us, both as to the past and the present.

I believe you also, during that panel program, indicated your willingness to support criminal sanctions for the divulgence of information about the operations of intelligence agencies. I hope I misunderstood you. I would appreciate receiving a statement of your policy concerning this matter so that I may have it available in my teaching of Constitutional Law.

Sincerely,

Francis H. Anderson

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Vol.13, No.17

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JUNE 27, 1977

granted to HEW because of an ongoing reorganization which will

had originally requested a down-

grade moratorium which would

expire on June 30. The new commission action extends this to

Aware that other agencies faced

with classifications and downgrades might mistake CSC's

December 1979.

affect thousands of employees. HEW Secretary Joseph Califano 75 CENTS

Jay ...



ANDREWS

"Sure, I'm for the right to strike and that other stuff, but what we need first — and it is

attainable — is the agency shop." So says Emmet Andrews, new president of the American Postal Workers Union.

special action on HEW as a blanket policy for the govern-ment, CSC Executive Director Raymond Jacobson has issued a Raymond Jacobson has issued a special bulletin to all personnel directors stating that "the decision in HEW's case does not constitute a revision" of CSC's policies of administrative reme-

dies concerning classification "Rather," Jacobson wrote, "it is a special exception to deal with

an extraordinary situation.

But government sources were

BUT THOSE ON BOARD SAFE

CIA Bans 'Double Dipping'

By BILL ANDRONICOS

In an action expected to have a major impact on the hiring of In an action expected to nave a major impact on the mring of retired military and certain civilian federal annuitants, the Central Intelligence Agency has ordered a near-total ban on new hiring of so-called "double dippers" to fill vacant CIA slots.

This makes the CIA the first federal agency to take action affecting the hiring of retired military persons as well as retired foreign service and former CIA employees.

Included in the order, which permits a few exceptions, is the "uniformed" sector of the federal work force, such as the Public Health Service, the Coast Guard and the like.

The order does not, however, affect those already holding jobs.

The ban order, issued recently by CIA Director Stansfield Turner, has been received with mixed reaction.

Retired persons affected by the directive are strongly against

(See CIA, Page 6)

resident Carter is walking a tightwire. . . . Federal employees are looking for some sign that there's going to be hetter treatment, better days." So says Kenneth T. Blaylock, American Federation of **Government Employees** president.



(From Page 1)

the action while others, including the National Taxpayers Union, voice ardent support.

The CIA action is seen in some circles as a precedent for other agencies to follow, but primarily those that are not covered by CSC regulations, such as the U.S. Postal Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the foreign service, the Energy Research Development Administration, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Tennessee Valley Authority.

Departments and agencies under civil service, however, would need legislation before they could but the hiring of retired military personnel. A House Defense appropriations subcommittee has approved a provision requiring retired military personnel hired after next October 1 in federal civilian jobs to give up their military pay, but the proposed measure does not ban such hirings outright.

The law that created the career civil service system requires open competition. This means that any attempt to keep retirees out of vying for federal jobs would be illegal.

A Civil Service Commission spokesman told Federal Times he would not predict what the administration would recommend in the way of so-called "double dipping" and noted that President Carter has on occasions spoken out against the practice. The President, however, has reserved judgment on how to control such hiring pending recommendations from a Commission on Military Compensation, which he intends to appoint soon.

"I cannot guess what limitations the administration may decide to prescribe but under the present law, retirees cannot be kept from competing for federal jobs," the CSC spokesman said.

Double dipping involves a person receiving federal pay from an agency as well as previously earned military retirement pay.

Any overall ban or curtailment by the federal sector on future hiring of pensioners is not expected to affect adversely the 150,000 military retirees now on federal payrolls nationwide.

In a telephone interview, a CIA spokesman explained that Admiral Turner issued a notice saying he wants to restrict the hiring of retirees into positions that could be filled from within the

"There probably will be no further hiring of annuitants, military or civilian, by the CIA — with only very few exceptions," the spokesman said.

Exceptions to the ban would occur:

- When the deputy CIA director for administration certifies that he skills required for a particular job are not available from among those employees now assigned to the agency.
- When the deputy CIA director for administration certifies that the agency would have to undertake special recruitment to fill a particular vacancy which require skills already possessed by an annuitant but not by any employee within the agency.

The CIA spokesman emphasized, however, that even such exceptions could not be carried out without the personal approval of the CIA director himself.

In addition, the Turner order prohibits the CIA from hiring retirees as "consultants, translators or contractors,

Also, the CIA explained that the Turner order was designed to increase promotional opportunities for CIA careerists and to assure "a steady accession of new career talent."

The controversial double-dipping issue also has long concerned Congress, as well as careerists within the federal government.

According to one congressional study, about one out of every 20 federal civilian workers is a military pensioner and in some agencies, the figure is said to be one in nine.

Later this month, the House Appropriations Committee is expected to approve a proposal by its defense subcommittee to ban pensions for military retirees who take government jobs after October 1, 1977. However, even if approved by the committee, such a proposal would have to run the full gamut of action by the full House, Senate and presidential signature before becoming law.

Among those praising the CIA stand on retirce hiring is the National Taxpayers Union (NTU). NTU has sent a letter to Turner which said, in part:

"We commend and congratulate you for leadership, courage, fiscal perception and a sense of career equity in your decision to curtail the hiring of federal retirees (military or civilian) in second career federal jobs within the CIA."

In a telephone interview, NTU research director Sid Taylor said it had become quite apparent in recent years that persons who previously worked within the State Department's foreign service. as well as former military people, went to CIA "to double dip." He added that a number of retired CIA employees also "simply went around the corner and returned again to work for the agency."

Taylor was unstinting in his support of the Turner order.

"This is a historical occasion," he said. "Imagine a military man having the guts to do what Turner did!"

Emphasizing that NTU is not against hiring retirees for federal jobs, Taylor said we're against paying them double while retired in second-career jobs on the federal payroll."

"Nobody else is allowed this windfall," according to Taylor. "We know of no business, company or corporation that retires its executives or employees and then rehires them in full-time, permanent, second-career jobs, paying them both a full pension and salary. The stockholders, employees and union officials would raise hell."

In a recent letter to Rep. George Mahon, D-Tex., chairman of the House appropriation defense subcommittee, Taylor charged that the U.S. government "is an inconsistent employer" on this

He noted that social security retirees, for example, are limited to an annual \$3000-a-year income ceiling.

Similarly, civil service retirees must forfeit their entire pensions if they come back on the federal payroll. Even welfare and food stamp recipients are subject to limited income ceilings.

"Only the retired professional military are allowed unlimited dual compensation," Taylor said. "Prior to 1964, a \$10,000-a-year (pay plus pension) ceiling was in effect on military retiree dual compensation.

"Many are now collecting from \$35,000 to around \$70,000 a year while retired on the federal payroll," Taylor added. "By 1982, some may be making over \$100,000 a year. This is an outrageous abuse of taxpayer monies."

In Taylor's opinion, the "villain" is the Dual Compensation Act of 1964, which was passed by voice vote in the 88th Congress — a Congress which according to Taylor "had about 175 members who held military reserve commissions granted to them by the

"In this sense, this act was illegally, if not unconstitutionally, enacted into law," said Taylor. "It involved conflict of interest, self-enrichment and violation of the constitutional doctrine of separation of powers."

Some who apparently 'voice' voted for it have been or are now 'double dipping' themselves while sitting in Congress," he added.

Taylor also has called on federal employee labor unions to support elimination of the Dual Compensation Act of 1964, which he contends permits "the raiding of the civil service retirement fund by military retirees."

"This act also generates and subsidizes military buddy system hiring and promotion abuses," Taylor added. "Some federal agencies are now loaded down with clusters or double dippers, sometimes including their relatives."

Similar outeries have been raised by federal careerists.

Younger federal employees in particular are beginning to complain about lost promotion opportunities because of the hiring of "double dippers.

One such Army Department employee, who chose to remain anonymous, told Federal Times he had had high hopes for a GS-14 job - but this hope was snuffed out when the slot was filled by a military retiree.

"If you're aiming for a GS-14 in this outfit, forget it, because you'll never make it," he said. "You can make it to GS-13 but from there on out, the double dippers take over."

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(From Page 3)

Kenneth T. Blaylock, president contracting-out penuing the study.

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Contracti review was coessery, said he

was "mildly enthusiastic" about the concessions.

He said that it would have been better if the administration had placed a total moratorium on contracting-out pending the study.

proposits for more contracting-out controls," he said.

AFGE had asked for the ban and had submitted a figure of 12.1 percent. Earlier, an AFGE offi-cial had said that the union asked for 13 percent, but he corrected himself later.

improper contracts are not let.

Fettig has been appointed chairman of the review task force. His assistants are Wayne Gran-quist, OMB associate director for administrative management and Dale R. McOmber, assistint

exceptions to contracting-out.

Adminal Stansfield Turner, Director
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PERSONNEL

17 May 1977

HIRING OF ANNUITANTS

I am anxious to ensure that we offer good promotion opportunity for our younger professionals, and a steady accession of new career talent. To ensure that these goals can be achieved I wish to restrict lateral input of outside retirees into positions that could be filled from within our own ranks. Therefore, effective immediately the further hiring of annuitants from any Government service is prohibited unless:

- The Deputy Director for Administration certifies that the skills required for the task to be performed by the annuitant are not available from any currently serving employee and, additionally, the Agency would have to undertake specific recruitment to find the particular skill necessary if the annuitant were not hired, and
 - I personally approve the hiring

STANSFIELD PURNER

Director

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Dear Mr. Carter

18 June 1977

The enclosed article was in the June 15, 1977 edition of the Saint Louis Post-Dispatch.

It is very hard to believe discrimination against those who have devoted a life to the defense of our way of life in the form of Mr. Turner's order could be condoned. I will not write a long letter, however, I do feel a man in Mr. Turner's position should not issue such an order nor have authority to discriminate against any American's right to free employment. It's just not right.

Thank you if you can help.

WILBERT R. WARKE

Wed., June 15, 1977

CIA Bars Military

Retirees

WASHINGTON, June 15 Adm. Stansfield Turner, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, has issued an order barring the agency from hiring military retirees.

The order also bars the hiring of civil service and foreign service retirees.

Turner's action prompted speculation that his move was a trial balloon that could lead to similar actions by other federal departments and agencies. Turner is very close to President Jimmy Carter, who has criticized "double dipping" by retired mili-tary men and has appointed a commission on military compensation to make recommendations on the subject.

The CIA was able to issue such an order be-cause it is not under civil service. Departments and agencies under civil service would require legislation in order to bar hiring of retired military personnel. A House Defense Appropriations subcommittee recently approved a provision requiring retired? military personnel in feeteral civilian jobs hired after next Oct. I to give up their military pay but it did not directly bar such hirings.

While CIA careerists generally were delighted with the order, some said it also should have applied to double dippers already on the CIA payroll. They noted that Turner last March hired as a top aid a retired Navy captain who

I have always felt that our Constitution was our "LAW OF THE LAND" NOT

MR. TURNER 222

and military pension.

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Admiral Stansfield Turner Director Central Intelligence Agency

Dear Admiral Turner:

Washington, D. C. 20505

The announcement in the June 7th Washington Star that you had issued orders prohibiting new hires of military, Civil Service and Foreign Service retirees made me feel like I had been shot from the rear while leading my troops in battle.

The issue of equal rights for retirees is a sensitive and complicated one, and is the subject of a lot of demagoguery that has led to hasty, ill-considered proposals in the Congress. Career uniformed people, active and retired, are beginning to feel like an endangered species. NAUS and the other military associations are doing their utmost to have the issue studied objectively, and we did succeed in convincing the President to defer action on dual compensation of retirees in the Federal Civil Service until his new Commission on Military Compensation has had opportunity to evaluate it. (See enclosed letter to The President and White House reply.)

NAUS and the other military associations are now making a major effort to head off the prohibitions on dual compensation currently under consideration in the Appropriations Committees of both the Senate and the House (see enclosed letter).

Now, without public explanation of the rationale, you prescribe a policy for the CIA that bypasses all the efforts the military associations and countless individuals are making to have the issue treated deliberately and fairly for all.

The enclosed letters and editorial from The Retired Officers Association magazine pretty well cover the history of the dual compensation issue, the case for the retiree, and refutation of the criticisms of the current system. I think the greatest BRIG GEN USA. Executive Vice President single argument against precipitous action is the breach of faith with the career members of the entire active forces. You need no explanation of this. The other aspect that puzzles me personally is how the CIA can function effectively without an input of experienced military and Foreign Service people.

Admiral Stansfield Turner

16 June 1977

The dual compensation problem is an unavoidable by-product of the requirement for young military forces. NAUS would not be opposed to alternatives to early retirement that phased military personnel into other government agencies without retirement and loss of seniority. This, of course, would create new problems. Until such alternatives can be worked out, it is grossly unfair to change the rules for uniformed people who have looked forward to non-discriminatory treatment upon retirement and are now past the point of no return in their careers. This is the type of action that makes military people believe they need unions.

Surely, within your headquarters there has been some kind of staff paper or study treating the pros and cons of your announced policy. May NAUS have a copy?

This issue is far from simple, and I do not advocate that there be no change whatever,— only that the change not be sudden and arbitrary. I would appreciate an appointment to discuss the matter with you personally, or with someone who is responsible to you for development of your policy on this issue.

Sincerely,

JOHN P. SHEFFEY

Colonel USA Ret

Executive Vice President

JPS:c

Encl.-NAUS 1tr to The President 5 Apr 77
White House 1tr to NAUS 26 Apr 77
NAUS 1tr to Chairman, House Appro Com 1 Jun 77
TROA Editorial "Double Dipping" May 77
HASC Chairman Price 1tr to Col Sheffey 8 Mar 77

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RESPONSE.

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